

RURAL DISTRICT OF PEWSEY

Annual Reports

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1968.



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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
(as at December, 1968)

Chairman: Councillor M.B. Nicol

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Maj.Gen. D.D.C. Tulloch

Councillor C.G. Buckland

Councillor W.A. Edwards

Councillor G.F. Kunkler

Councillor A.W. Sadler

Councillor R.N. Swanton

(Vice-Chairman of the Council)

Councillor R.J. Butler

Councillor J.S. Haines

Councillor Mrs. B.G. Osborne

Councillor Lt.Col. F.H.A. Stables, J.P.

(Chairman of the Council)

Councillor J.A. Whitmarsh

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

F.D.F. Steede, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Clerk (M.O.H. Office)

Miss G.M. Boswell

Council Offices, 1 The Green, Marlborough.

Tel: Marlborough 2487 and 2118

Senior Public Health Inspector:

T.F. Harding, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

H.W. Gillian, M.A.P.H.I.

Technical Assistant:

L.T. Jones

Rodent Operator:

P.N. Raisey

Clerk (R.D.C. Office)

Miss S. Baker

Public Health Department, Council Offices,

The Old Rectory, Pewsey, Wilts.

Tel: Pewsey 2261/2/3

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for the Borough of Marlborough, and the Rural Districts of Amesbury, and Marlborough and Ramsbury. These combined districts have a population of 71,880 and an area of 235,289 acres. They have appointed a Joint Committee, The East Wilts (United Districts) Joint M.O.H. Committee to deal with all matters relating to the office of Medical Officer of Health. The Medical Officer of Health also performs duties for the Wiltshire County Council under the National Health Service, Education and Mental Health Acts.

East Wilts (United Districts) M.O.H. Office,

1 The Green,

Marlborough.

Tel: Marlborough 2487/2118.

To The Chairman and Councillors of the Rural District:

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1968, which is compiled on similar lines to last year to comply with the requirements of the Ministry of Health. I am grateful to Mr. Harding, the Senior Public Health Inspector for his report which is included. I am also indebted to Dr. Lycett, the County Medical Officer for supplying details of immunisation procedures carried out.

The Rural District with the parish of Pewsey situated close to its centre, at a distance of seven miles south of Marlborough, is very largely concerned with agriculture and agricultural pursuits. However, it also contains large Ministry of Defence establishments wherein a considerable number of civilian residents find their employment. The district is traversed for a great deal of its extent by the river Avon and its twin sources, together with its tributary the river Bourne. The countryside is extremely attractive, many of its parishes present a very old world character, and has a considerable attraction for visitors.

During the year the general health of the district has given little or no cause for concern. For the second successive year there has been a substantial increase in the estimated mid-year population of over 1,000, again due to the new development taking place in North Tidworth. The number of births shows an increase which gives a rate well above the national average. The number of illegitimate births remains the same, which gives a rate below the national figure, and slightly below that of last year, the highest ever recorded locally. I hope this downward trend will continue, since there is no doubt that the illegitimate child starts life, even in these enlightened days, with a serious handicap, as those of us who attend case conferences on families with problems are only too well aware.

The number of deaths has again fallen slightly, and the adjusted death rate is 3.1 per 1,000 population below that of the national average. Infant mortality is also slightly lower, and the death rate is just below the national rate. There were nine infant deaths, seven of which occurred under one week, and all under four weeks. Three of these were due to congenital defects, three to prematurity, two as a result of pneumonia, and one from asphyxia. Heart disease accounted for forty-four of the 160 deaths which took place, twenty, due to coronary disease. Deaths from malignant disease numbered thirty-eight. Of these, ten, or over a quarter were due to lung cancer, seven in men and three in women. Most people are now aware that in almost nine cases out of ten as far as lung cancer is concerned, cigarette smoking is a direct causative factor. They are unfortunately less aware of the important part it has to play in coronary disease and chronic bronchitis, which together cause more deaths than lung cancer, and are responsible for much prolonged and severe disability, particularly chronic bronchitis. I am sure that it is right to place more restrictions on smoking in public places, not only in the interest of those with pre-existing chest conditions, but also as a reminder particularly to the young, that this habit carries a really serious health hazard.

Infective jaundice became a notifiable disease on 15th June, and on 10th October certain other, in the main, expected alterations were made to the list of notifiable diseases. I was sorry however that both brucellosis and salmonella infections were not included. I should also like to see salmonella infections

in animals notifiable by the veterinary surgeon concerned.

Cases of infectious disease were, except for infective jaundice very few. In the 380 bed Pewsey hospital for mentally sub-normal patients during the period 20th June until 27th November there were 102 notified cases of infective jaundice, of whom five were staff and the remainder patients. In this hospital the control of the outbreak was made more difficult since not only, as far as the patients were concerned, was there undoubtedly a low level of herd immunity, but there were also immense problems as a result of unavoidable defects in personal hygiene. It was decided therefore, in advance of the Public Health Laboratory Service report on the beneficial effect of the use of gamma globulin in the prevention of this disease which was published in August, to use gamma globulin prophylactically in an effort to limit spread. Initially it was used on staff quite widely, but on patients only in the wards affected, since all the wards are separated from each other in free standing blocks. However, experience showed that its use in this way was too late in the incubation period to prevent overt disease. It may well however have had an effect on attenuating severity, since although there was unfortunately one death which occurred in a boy of eight years of age, who was severely handicapped, both physically and mentally, only fourteen cases were classified as severe. On the 11th November, when five of the wards had been affected, three of them severely few patients escaping clinical disease, it was decided to give gamma globulin to all remaining patients and staff. This resulted in an abrupt termination of the outbreak, the five wards which were clear, remained so, and the last case occurred on the 27th November. This epidemic placed a very great strain on the already overburdened staff, for whom I have nothing but admiration, and in similar circumstances it is clear that the use of gamma globulin for the whole hospital, patients and staff, is justified as early as possible. Although the origin of the outbreak is uncertain and must remain so, it is possible that it was introduced by a nurse who herself had little or no symptoms, but who was in contact with a relative who had severe jaundice. This relative relapsed and died six months after her initial attack, and investigations into other cases which occurred in the vicinity, although few, revealed at least two cases in which the disease was severe. I have no doubt that gamma globulin is justifiable not only in institutional outbreaks, but also prophylactically for the protection of household contacts, a policy which I have advocated for quite a number of years.

Although measles was prevalent in the surrounding districts, the number of cases notified was only fifteen. Now that a vaccination programme is in being it seems likely that this will result in its disappearance, if not completely at any rate in epidemic form. Two cases of dysentery were notified, a welcome reduction from the high figures of the past two years. Neither case were connected and there was no spread. Although dysentery was minimal, and no case of food poisoning was notified, gastroenteritis in a mild form was prevalent at times, and a number of cases were investigated, with negative bacteriological findings. Minor illness of this type gives rise to a great deal of dislocation, and is largely preventable. Important factors in causation are defects in personal cleanliness, and slipshod methods of food preparation, often due to sheer ignorance of the elementary principles of food hygiene. Food should always be prepared with clean hands, in order to ensure as far as possible that harmful bacteria responsible for food poisoning and other disease such as dysentery, do not get into food in the first place. Cooked food which is not required to be eaten immediately should be brought to a cool temperature as rapidly as possible, and kept in a refrigerator until it is needed, with the object of preventing the multiplication of any harmful bacteria. Another cause of food poisoning is the practice of re-heating food which has not been stored in a refrigerator. When food is re-cooked this should always be thorough. "Warming up" is a very bad and hazardous practice. Even prolonged cooking is not always reliable, particularly in hot weather where food has been kept for some time at room temperature. I should very much like to see a refrigerator considered to be as much a household necessity as the T.V. set.

Vaccinations figures both for poliomyelitis and triple vaccination against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus are unfortunately down. I am not altogether clear why this should be so, since the County Health Department do a very great deal to ensure that the need for vaccination is brought to the notice of all parents,

and notify them when the appropriate vaccination is due. Nevertheless, at the present time we are running a very bad last in the table showing the vaccination state by districts in the County, with only 55 per cent of all babies vaccinated against diphtheria in the first year of life. If we are to continue our immunity against diphtheria this state of affairs must be remedied. I exhort all parents to ensure that they obtain this protection for their children, which all should have either from the clinic or their own doctor.

Housing conditions are reasonably good, and I am glad that the Senior Public Health Inspector, who is responsible for the compilation of the waiting list, has been able to report a reduction in the number of urgent cases. I have nothing but praise for the way in which the Council manage their housing affairs. Great care is taken to ensure that housing need is the over-riding criteria on which allocations are based, although no formal points scheme is at present in use. In particular, from my point of view, relevant medical considerations are always given proper priority, and above all there is no discrimination in the way of a residential qualification. The two full scale grouped accommodation schemes are an outstanding contribution, with Ludgershall completed and Aston House almost complete. I know that it is unrealistic to ask at this stage for a further scheme with full community services, but there may well be a case for the provision of smaller schemes, with warden provision only, in some parishes. One feature which I feel I should refer to is, that in these two new schemes instead of the usual bell a "speech call" system has been installed, which is specifically designed for this purpose. Since it provides for two-way speech not only is it a better emergency provision, but is a means whereby the warden can keep in close touch with the tenants with less "leg work" and is an important aid to the fostering of good community relations and combating loneliness.

Another year has passed without the introduction of fluoridation in the interest of dental health of the rising generation, in spite of the fact that the Council and all the other constituent councils of the South Wilts Water Board were all in favour, and I understand approached the County Council on the matter. There is no doubt that this important and well proven public health measure will eventually become routine procedure, as it is now in countries as large as the United States and as small as Southern Ireland, but delay is a cause for concern since the benefit lost can never be regained in respect of our children who are growing up now.

The South Wilts Water Board's mains supply is available almost throughout the whole district. Quantity and quality have given no cause for concern except for the Wootton Rivers source, which is due for replacement at the latest in 1971, as it has not always given satisfactory bacteriological results on sampling. The two Alton parishes at present on a private supply, will be supplied by a South Wilts Water Board mains supply next year, since again there have been difficulties with regard to quality.

Refuse collection is still a weekly service under the control of the Public Health Department. I am very glad that the Council are committed to disposable sacks in lieu of dustbins, even though the change is likely to be slow for financial reasons. I look forward too, to the elimination of the present kerbside collection as soon as the financial climate permits collection from the premises, for which the disposable sack is almost a necessary precursor.

Sewerage is reported in detail by the Senior Public Health Inspector. I am bound to say however, that I am very glad that it has been possible to make a start on the sewerage of the Collingbournes' area.

A second Area Old People's Welfare Committee in addition to that operating for some years successfully in Pewsey, was sponsored and is now in being in Ludgershall. A start too has been made on the provision of a meals on wheels service in Ludgershall, albeit at present only one day a week. The service in Pewsey, now in its third year, is an outstanding success, and as in Ludgershall not only are meals distributed, but also cooking and shopping is undertaken by voluntary workers, to whom a great debt of gratitude is owed. In this connection the Council arranged

with great foresight to have the kitchens in the grouped accommodation schemes built with sufficient capacity to allow for these meals to be cooked therein.

In concluding this report I should like to thank the Council and members of the Public Health Committee for the great deal of support which they have given me during the year. I am also grateful to the Officers of the Council for their helpfulness and consideration, and particularly to Mr. Harding and his staff for the very hard work which they have put in during the busy year. I should also like to thank Dr. Lishman who acts as my Deputy, for his ready help and advice. I am very grateful to Dr. Wormald and his staff at the Public Health Laboratory, for their continued co-operation, often at very short notice. Finally, I should like to thank my clerical assistant Miss Boswell, not only for the conscientious way she has carried out her work during the year, but also for her valued assistance with this report.

I am Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
your obedient servant,

F.D.F. STEEDE,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

| | |
|---|----------|
| Area in acres | 75,828 |
| Number of Parishes | 25 |
| Population, Registrar General's mid-year estimate | 25,530 |
| Number of inhabited houses and flats | 7,153 |
| Number of inhabited houses and flats owned by the Council | 1,541 |
| Rateable value as at 1st April, 1968 | £635,221 |
| Product of penny rate | £2,619 |

Vital Statistics

| | M. | F. | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-------|
| Live births - legitimate | 255 | 235 | 490 |
| illegitimate | 13 | 13 | 26 |
| Totals | 268 | 248 | 516 |
| Live birth rate per 1,000 population | | | 20.2 |
| Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births | | | 5.0 |
| Stillbirths - legitimate | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| illegitimate | - | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths | | | 11.0 |
| Total live and stillbirths | 270 | 252 | 522 |
| Deaths | 83 | 77 | 160 |
| Death rate per 1,000 population | | | 6.3 |
| Infant deaths under one year - legitimate | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| illegitimate | - | 2 | 2 |
| Totals | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births | | | 17.0 |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births | | | 14.3 |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births | | | 77.0 |
| Neonatal deaths (under four weeks) - legitimate | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| illegitimate | - | 2 | 2 |
| Totals | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 total live births | | | 17.4 |
| Early neonatal deaths (under one week) - legitimate | 6 | - | 6 |
| illegitimate | - | 1 | 1 |
| Totals | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Early neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births | | | 13.6 |
| Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths) | | | 25.0 |
| Maternal mortality including abortion | | | nil |
| Maternal mortality rate | | | nil |

| | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Infant deaths | 7 | 5 | 8 | 10 | 9 |
| Infant mortality rate | 13.3 | 10.5 | 18.3 | 22.0 | 17.0 |

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1968

| Cause of Death | | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------------------|--|------|--------|-------|
| B18 | Other infective and parasitic diseases | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| B19(2) | Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| B19(3) | Malignant neoplasm - breast | - | 3 | 3 |
| B19(4) | Malignant neoplasm - uterus | - | 2 | 2 |
| B19(6) | Other malignant neoplasms, etc. | 13 | 10 | 23 |
| B21 | Diabetes mellitus | - | 2 | 2 |
| B46(1) | Other endocrine etc. diseases | - | 1 | 1 |
| B46(3) | Mental disorders | - | 2 | 2 |
| B46(4) | Other diseases of nervous system, etc. | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| B27 | Hypertensive disease | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| B28 | Ischaemic heart disease | 16 | 8 | 24 |
| B29 | Other forms of heart disease | 9 | 11 | 20 |
| B30 | Cerebrovascular disease | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| B46(5) | Other diseases of circulatory system | - | 7 | 7 |
| B31 | Influenza | 1 | - | 1 |
| B32 | Pneumonia | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| B33(1) | Bronchitis and emphysema | 10 | - | 10 |
| B34 | Peptic ulcer | 2 | - | 2 |
| B46(7) | Other diseases of digestive system | - | 2 | 2 |
| B38 | Nephritis and nephrosis | - | 1 | 1 |
| B46(8) | Other diseases, genito-urinary system | - | 1 | 1 |
| B42 | Congenital anomalies | 5 | - | 5 |
| B43 | Birth injury, difficult labour, etc. | 2 | - | 2 |
| B44 | Other causes of perinatal mortality | 1 | - | 1 |
| BE47 | Motor vehicle accidents | - | 1 | 1 |
| BE48 | All other accidents | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| BE50 | All other external causes | - | 1 | 1 |
| Total of all causes | | 83 | 77 | 160 |

Comparison with England and Wales

| | per 1,000 population | | per 1,000 Live Births | per 1,000 Total Births |
|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| | Live Births (Adjusted) | Death Rate (Adjusted) | Infant Mortality | Stillbirths |
| Pewsey R.D. | 21.0 | 8.8 | 17.0 | 11.0 |
| England and Wales | 16.9 | 11.9 | 18.0 | 14.0 |

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA
(as at December, 1968)

General Practitioners:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Dr. J.C. Byrne, M.B., B.Ch. |) | Hallgate House, Pewsey. |
| Dr. T.G. Hynes, M.B., B.Ch. |) | Tel. Pewsey 2406 |
| Dr. W.R. Chisholm-Batten, M.B. |) | |
| | | |
| Dr. M.J.L. Hassall, M.R.C.S., | | The Old Bakery, Burbage. Tel. Burbage 295 |
| | | |
| Dr. G.E. Hyson, M.R.C.S. |) | |
| Dr. G.H. Drake, M.R.C.S. |) | The Surgery, St. James Street, Ludgershall. |
| Dr. J.P. Arthur, M.R.C.S. |) | Tel. Ludgershall 356 |
| Dr. J.C. Merrington, M.B. |) | |
| | | |
| Dr. D. Leaney, M.B., |) | Old Brewery Cottage, Netheravon. |
| Dr. R.J.B.H. Jones, M.R.C.S. |) | Tel. Netheravon 332 |
| | | |
| Dr. T. Davies, M.R.C.S. | | Jarvis Street, Upavon. Tel. Upavon 205 |

Hospitals:

Savernake Hospital. Tel. Marlborough 2101

Public Health Laboratory:

Odstock Hospital, Salisbury. (Dr. P. Wormald, M.A., M.D.) Tel. Salisbury 6020

County Council Health Department Services:

(a) Ambulance Facilities - this service is based in Swindon, dial 999

(b) Clinics.

Cervical Cytology Clinic, First and third Tuesday of each month 2.30 - 4 p.m.
The Health Clinic,
8 Kingsbury Street,
Marlborough.
Tel. Marlborough 2832

(c) Chiropody Service - this is mainly a domiciliary service.

(d) Mental Welfare Centre - Mental Welfare Officer, 66 New Park Street, Devizes.
Tel. Devizes 3629

(e) District Nurse/Midwives.

| | |
|--|---|
| Mrs. W.E. Phillips, "Rooftops", Buckleaze Lane, Pewsey. Tel. Pewsey 3145 | Pewsey, Oare, Wilcot and Hush, Manningfords. |
|--|---|

| | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Mrs. S. Strickland, The Nurse's Home, Milton Lilbourne. Tel. Pewsey 3264 | Alton, Milton Lilbourne, Woodborough. |
|---|---------------------------------------|

| | |
|--|---|
| Miss M.C. Gurr, 62 Watson Close, Upavon. Tel. Upavon 281 | Charlton, Hilcot, North Newton, Rushall, Upavon, Wilsford. |
|--|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| Mrs. R.E. Isaac, 4 Sidbury Hill Avenue, North Tidworth. Tel. Tidworth 3287 | Chute, Chute Forest, Collingbournes', Everleigh, North Tidworth. |
|---|---|

(f) Health Visitors.

Miss P.M. Bagshaw,
68 Bryans Close Road, Calne.
Tel. Calne 3232.

Miss M.F. Cummins,
5, The Green, Calne.

Miss M. Poulter,
Pear Tree Cottage, Great Bedwyn.
Tel. Great Bedwyn 283.

Miss J.L. Salmon,
11 Byron Close, Ludgershall.

Mrs. P.M. Thomas,
23, Fairfield, Upavon.
Tel. Upavon 386

(g) Infant Welfare Centres.

Ludgershall,
Memorial Hall.

Second and last Wednesday of each month
2-4 p.m.

Netheravon/Fittleton,
Parish Hall.

First and third Wednesday of each month
2.30-4 p.m.

Pewsey,
Bouverie Hall.

First and third Thursday of each month
2-4 p.m.

Upavon, R.A.F. Station,
Wives Club.

Second Thursday of each month
2.30-4 p.m.

(h) Health Visitor's Centres.

Burbage,
Dr. Hassall's Surgery.

Third Monday of each month 2-4 p.m.

Collingbourne Ducis,
Comrades Club.

First Thursday of each month 2-4 p.m.

Perham Down,
Wives Club Medical Centre.

Second and fourth Tuesday of each month
2-4 p.m.

Upavon Village,
The Reading Room.

Third Tuesday of each month 2.30-4 p.m.

Woodborough,
Woodborough & District Country
Club Hall.

Fourth Thursday of each month 2-3.30 p.m.

County Council Children's Department.

Health Centre, Salt Lane, Salisbury. Tel. Salisbury 27551

County Welfare Department.

Mr. A.P.A. Tucker, A.I.S.W., 66 New Park Street, Devizes. Tel. Devizes 3628

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1968

| Disease | Total cases | Admitted to hospital | Total deaths | Analysis of total cases in age groups | | | | | | | | | | Age un-known | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|-------|------|---|
| | | | | Under one Year | 1- | 2- | 3- | 4- | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-24 | 25-34 | 35-44 | | 45-65 | 65 + | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Acute encephalitis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute meningitis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute poliomyelitis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Anthrax | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cholera | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dysentery | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Infective jaundice | 104 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - | 1 | 7 | 35 | 45 | 9 | 3 | - | - | - | - |
| Leprosy | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Leptospirosis | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Malaria | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Measles | 15 | - | - | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ophthalmia neonatorum | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Paratyphoid fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Plague | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Relapsing fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Scarlet fever | 9 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | 5 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Smallpox | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tetanus | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tuberculosis, respiratory .. | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| Tuberculosis, other | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| Typhoid fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Typhus | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Whooping cough | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Yellow fever | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 133 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 17 | 35 | 47 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 1 | - | - |

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION STATISTICS, 1968

Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Tetanus and Measles

| Year of Birth | | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1959-63 | 1953-58 | Others under 16 |
|---|---------|------|------|------|------|------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| Primary immunisations completed during 1968 | Diph. | 118 | 122 | - | 3 | - | 7 | 1 | - |
| | Wh/c. | 117 | 121 | - | 1 | - | 1 | - | - |
| | Tet. | 118 | 122 | - | 3 | - | 7 | 1 | - |
| | Measles | - | 23 | 13 | 17 | 19 | 329 | 68 | - |
| Reinforcing injections administered during 1968 | Diph. | - | 31 | 70 | 12 | 3 | 231 | 9 | - |
| | Wh/c. | - | 7 | 44 | 4 | - | 13 | - | - |
| | Tet. | - | 31 | 70 | 12 | 3 | 235 | 10 | - |

Smallpox Vaccination

| Age Group | Months | | | | Years | | |
|-----------------|--------|-----|-----|------|-------|-----|------|
| | 0-3 | 3-6 | 6-9 | 9-12 | 1 | 2-4 | 5-15 |
| Vaccinations | - | - | - | - | - | 12 | 18 |
| Re-vaccinations | - | - | - | - | - | 8 | 88 |

| Age Group | 2nd inj. | 3rd inj. | 4th inj. | 3 oral doses | 2 orals after 2 inj. | 4th oral after 3inj.or 3 oral |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1968 | - | - | - | 111 | - | - |
| 1967 | - | - | - | 112 | - | 29 |
| 1966 | - | - | - | 2 | - | 62 |
| 1965 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| 1964 | - | - | - | - | - | 2 |
| 1959 - 1963 | - | - | - | 73 | - | 328 |
| 1953 - 1958 | - | - | - | 6 | - | 3 |
| Others under 16 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Others over 16 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | - | - | - | 103 | - | 424 |

RURAL DISTRICT OF PEWSEY

Council Offices,
The Old Rectory,
Pewsey,
Wilts.

Telephone - 2261.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Council.

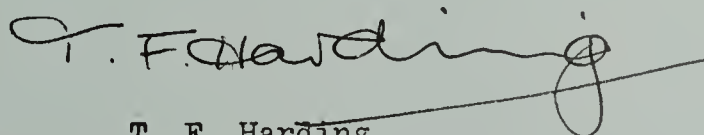
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department for the year ended 31st December, 1968.

If Members will turn to the Table of Inspections and Visits on Page 4, they will note that no less than 5,702 visits were made by their officers during the year. This is an all-time record, and as at the present time local authorities, and especially small ones, are being severely, and often unwarrantably, criticised for lack of efficiency and productivity, I have turned up my first Annual Report, which was for 1953, and I would like, for Members' interest, to quote some of the statistics contained therein in comparison with those for the year under review. In 1953 we made 2,591 visits, compared with the 5,702 just quoted; we took 90 water samples, compared with 340 for 1968; we took 81 milk samples, compared with 184 for 1968; we were concerned with the administration of 730 Council houses and a total population of 16,760, compared with the current total of over 1,500 Council houses and a population of 25,530. Members will not need to be reminded of the very considerable improvements that have been made in the refuse collection service in recent years; nor of the fact that we have completed a not inconsiderable slum clearance programme and modernised over 900 private houses in the process. All this has been achieved with a total increase of staff of one technical assistant and one full-time clerk in the last 16 years. I do not think that we can be accused of not having improved our productivity.

I would like to thank all the Members of the Council for their continued interest and support during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,



T. F. Harding
Senior Public Health Inspector

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1968

| | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | <u>Number of new houses and flats erected during the year</u> | |
| | (a) by local authority | 71 |
| | (b) private enterprise | 54 |
| 2. | <u>Inspection of Dwellings during the year</u> | |
| | (i) Inspected for housing defects under P.A. Acts | 24 |
| | (ii) Inspected for housing defects under Housing Acts | - |
| | (iii) Number of dwellings found so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation | - |
| | (iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation | 21 |
| 3. | <u>Remedy of Defects by Informal Action</u> | |
| | Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action | 17 |
| 4. | <u>Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health and Housing Acts)</u> | |
| | (A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957 - | |
| | (i) number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | - |
| | (ii) number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices - | |
| | (a) by owners | - |
| | (b) by local authority in default of owners | - |
| | (B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts - | |
| | (i) number of dwellings in respect of which formal notices were served | 4 |
| | (ii) number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices - | |
| | (a) by owners | 4 |
| | (b) by local authority in default of owners | - |
| | (C) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957 - | |
| | (i) number of Demolition Orders made | - |
| | (ii) number of houses demolished as result of formal action | 5 |
| | (iii) number of undertakings accepted | 2 |
| | (iv) number of undertakings completed | 3 |
| | (v) number of houses where Closing Orders were made | 2 |
| | (vi) number of houses where Closing Orders were cancelled | 6 |
| | (vii) number of houses closed as a result of Closing Orders or undertakings | 1 |

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1968 (Cont'd.)

(D) Proceedings under Sections 42 and 43 of the
Housing Act, 1957 -

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| (i) | number of houses under which Demolition Orders were made | - |
| (ii) | number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | - |
| (iii) | number of houses demolished due to Public Health Acts | - |
| (iv) | number of unfit houses purchased by Council and demolished as part of reconstruction schemes | - |

(E) Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957 -

- | | | |
|------|---|---|
| (i) | number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | - |
| (ii) | number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were cancelled, as a result of premises having been made fit | - |

5. Housing Act, 1957, Part IV - Overcrowding

- | | | |
|-------|--|---|
| (i) | number of cases of overcrowded dwellings at end of year | 2 |
| (ii) | number of cases discovered during year | - |
| (iii) | number of cases abated during year | 2 |

TABLE OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Water supply ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 350 |
| Drainage ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 104 |
| Movable dwellings ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 27 |
| Refuse collection and disposal and collection of abandoned cars | ... | | | | | | 991 |
| Bakehouses and Factories and outworkers ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | 32 |
| Visits made by Inspector re Pest Control .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | 130 |
| Visits made by Operator for Treatment ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | 1,138 |
| Visits made by Operator for Survey ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | 633 |
| Miscellaneous Sanitary visits (Schools, Agriculture, etc.)... | ... | | | | | | 141 |
| Housing Visits under Public Health Act, 1936 | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | 76 |
| Visits under Housing Act, 1957 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | 22 |
| Overcrowding and allocation of houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | | | 1,041 |
| Verminous premises ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Miscellaneous Housing visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 134 |
| Improvement Grants | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 232 |
| Infectious diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Slaughterhouse visits ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| Visits to Burchers, Fishmongers, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| Visits to Grocers and Greengrocers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |
| Visits to Food preparing premises generally | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51 |
| Market stalls and delivery vehicles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Visits to licensed houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| Visits to Dairies and Cowsheds ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 46 |
| Milk sampling visits ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 183 |
| Ice Cream sampling visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| Miscellaneous food visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 147 |
| | | | | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | | | | 5,702 |
| | | | | | | | <hr/> |

HOUSING

In my report for 1967 particular attention was paid to the fact that, in spite of all the Council's efforts, the number of housing applications on the Council's books had remained approximately the same over a period of four years. The figures for 1968, which are given at the end of this section, show that the total number of cases on the Council's books has risen to 423, as compared with 400 in 1963. In actual fact, this figure is not so significant as would first appear, in that the number of urgent cases on the books has dropped from 130 in 1963 to 86, and the degree of urgency of most of these cases has considerably diminished. By far the greater number of these cases are concentrated in the two military parishes of Tidworth and Ludgershall, and it is to be hoped that the 55 houses and flats (practically the entire housing programme for 1968/69) which are being built in those two parishes will drastically reduce this total. There is no doubt, however, that the housing problem in these two parishes will continue to give rise to concern due to the large number of evictions of time served soldiers and their families, and the considerable number of married quarters which have been newly built in Tidworth to house freshly imported families will, of course, exacerbate this problem.

It would not be inappropriate for me to comment on the totally artificial nature of the boundary between North and South Tidworth. So far as the man in the street is concerned, this is only a line on a map, and of no significance so far as his housing need is concerned, but there is no doubt that the problem of rehousing families from South Tidworth does throw an added strain on the Council's housing programme.

The completion of the first of the Council's grouped accommodation schemes at Ludgershall during the year has enabled us to ease the housing circumstances of a number of elderly people by providing 21 flats and flatlets exactly tailored to their needs. Contrary to expectations in some quarters, the provision of this accommodation did not release existing Council houses for re-letting to any considerable extent. A great many of our elderly tenants are already happily in occupation of small bungalows, and did not find the advantages of grouped accommodation sufficiently attractive to outweigh the desirability of having a home of their own. Most of these people were clearly satisfactorily housed, but it was noticeable that their biggest problem was that of coping with an over-large garden. The Committee will be interested to know, as an indication of the extra burden that grouped accommodation throws on Health and Housing Departments, that in order to secure 21 suitable tenants for the Ludgershall scheme, no less than 105 elderly couples or persons were interviewed in depth, and it is this facet of our work which caused the noticeable rise in the number of visits connected with housing work from 772 in 1967 to 1,041 in 1968.

There was a great deal of resistance to the idea of moving into grouped accommodation initially, and there is no doubt that this was due to a total misconception in many old people's minds as to the nature of the accommodation. Most of them feared a serious curtailment of their freedom and privacy, and in this connection the use of the title 'warden' undoubtedly contributed to these fears; it is perhaps too close to 'warder' to be comfortable. In the event we were able to take parties of old people around the building before it was completed, and this dispelled their fears and killed a number of silly rumours that had been circulating. I have no doubt that, of all the good work that the Council has done in housing, the erection of the grouped accommodation has been the best, and the most rewarding for those involved in it.

The demand for Improvement Grants continued on a very much reduced scale, although it is anticipated that there will be an increase in the demand as the Collingbourne Sewerage Scheme becomes available for use.

WAITING LIST FOR COUNCIL HOUSES

| | <u>1963</u> | <u>1964</u> | <u>1965</u> | <u>1966</u> | <u>1967</u> | <u>1968</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Urgent cases residing in district | 105 | 102 | 83 | 101 | 102 | 75 |
| Non-urgent cases residing in district | 192 | 198 | 223 | 225 | 222 | 233 |
| | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| <u>Total</u> | 297 | 300 | 306 | 326 | 324 | 315 |
| | === | === | === | === | === | === |
| Urgent cases residing <u>outside</u> district | 25 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 12 | 11 |
| Non-urgent cases residing <u>outside</u> district | 78 | 60 | 62 | 69 | 96 | 97 |
| | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| <u>Total</u> | 103 | 70 | 76 | 83 | 108 | 108 |
| | === | === | === | === | === | === |
| <u>Grand Total</u> | 400 | 370 | 382 | 409 | 432 | 423 |
| | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== | ===== |

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

| | <u>1963</u> | <u>1964</u> | <u>1965</u> | <u>1966</u> | <u>1967</u> | <u>1968</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Discretionary Grants approved | 50 | 56 | 39 | 26 | 26 | 19 |
| Standard Grants approved | 14 | 12 | 11 | 9 | 14 | 20 |
| Average total cost of discretionary Improvement schemes | £851 | £897 | £867 | £1,165 | £867 | £963 |
| Average percentage grant | 38.2% | 36.9% | 36.1% | 28.3% | 38.3% | 34.0% |
| No. of houses improved during year by Standard Grant | | | | | | 27 |
| No. of houses improved during year by Discretionary Grant | | | | | | 26 |

WATER SUPPLY

Now that the South Wilts Water Board has taken over the Council's functions as a water supply authority, we have become principally concerned as a sampling authority, whose function is to check the purity of the water as supplied to the consumer. This has not resulted in any reduction in the number of samples taken and, as mentioned in the preamble to this report, a total of 310 were taken during 1968, some of which were to assist the Board in its investigations into the possibility of obtaining a new source in the Collingbourne area.

During the year the Board undertook to provide a piped supply from its source at Compton to the parishes of Alton Priors and Barnes, where, as noted in my previous report, the private supply had been producing occasional samples of very poor bacteriological quality. A frequent sampling regime was carried on throughout the year to keep a check on this private supply. It was necessary, on two occasions, for us to institute emergency chlorination of the supply when very bad samples were obtained, and it is very much to be hoped that it will not be long before the Board's scheme can be put into effect.

The table which follows gives details of the samples taken during the year, and the table on Page 8 shows the mode of the supply to dwellings in the district, brought up to date for 1968.

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES

Netheravon, Enford, Upavon,
Charlton, Rushall, Manningfords,
North Newnton, Pewsey, Woodborough,
Wilcot, Burbage, Milton Lilbourne,
Easton Royal, Collingbourne Kingston
and Ducis

Chlorinated supply from bore holes
owned by the South Wilts Water Board.
pH value 7.9. Total hardness
199 p.p.m.
62 bacteriological samples taken.
2 non-faecal pollution.

Ludgershall, Chutes

Chlorinated water purchased in
bulk from Southampton Corporation
Waterworks.
pH value 7.5. Total hardness
235 p.p.m.
42 bacteriological samples taken.
1 faecal pollution.

Wootton Rivers

Chlorinated supply from deep well.
pH value 7.1. Total hardness
285 p.p.m.
48 bacteriological samples taken.
5 non-faecal pollution.

North Tidworth

Chlorinated water from War
Department source.
pH value 7.5. Total hardness
210 p.p.m.
46 bacteriological samples taken.
All satisfactory.

Everleigh

Chlorinated water from War
Department source.
46 bacteriological samples taken.
1 faecal pollution.
1 non-faecal pollution.

Altons

Private supply, not chlorinated.
48 samples taken.
31 satisfactory.
3 faecal pollution
14 non-faecal pollution.

MODE OF SUPPLY TO DWELLINGS IN THE DISTRICT

| PARISH | Number of dwellings supplied from public mains | | Population supplied from public mains | | |
|---------------------|--|--------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| | Inside the dwelling | By Standpipe | Inside the dwelling | By Standpipe | |
| Alton | 2 | - | 6 | - | Private piped supply. |
| Burbage | 386 | 2 | 849.2 | 4.4 | |
| Charlton | 12 | - | 44 | - | |
| Chute | 83 | 1 | 249 | 3 | |
| Chute Forest | 30 | - | 81 | - | |
| Collingbourne Ducis | 199 | - | 517 | - | |
| " Kingston | 99 | 1 | 345 | 3 | |
| Easton Royal | 86 | - | 198 | 1 | |
| Enford | 190 | 4 | 597 | 12 | |
| Everleigh | 36 | - | 116 | - | |
| Fittleton | 86 | 1 | 275 | 3.2 | |
| Huish | 1 | - | 2.4 | - | |
| Ludgershall | (724 | - | 2,389 | - | Public Supply Army Dept. Supply |
| | (70 | - | 231 | - | |
| Manningford | 139 | 2 | 361 | 6 | Council Estate Army Dept. Supply Private and Min. of Defence letting. |
| Milton Lilbourne | 121 | - | 363 | - | |
| Netheravon | 285 | 8 | 1,077 | 30 | |
| North Newnton | 126 | 3 | 291 | 7.5 | |
| North Tidworth | (252 | - | 1,109 | - | |
| | { 1,865 | - | 8,206 | - | |
| | (| | |) | |
| Pewsey | 870 | 2 | 2,523 | 5.8 | |
| Rushall | 11 | - | 33 | - | |
| Upavon | (274 | - | 931 | - | Public Supply Army Dept. Supply |
| | (231 | - | 724 | - | |
| Wilcot | 197 | - | 531 | - | |
| Wilsford | 4 | - | 12 | - | |
| Woodborough | 94 | 2 | 235 | 5 | |
| Wootton Rivers | 78 | 1 | 195 | 2.5 | |

REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION

No serious problems arose during the year in connection with this service, apart from the difficulties that arise in the continued extension of the district and the extra amount of rubbish generated by each and every household. Further married quarters were built in Tidworth by the Army Department, and the labour force of 13 men (including a tractor driver and a paper baler) was increased by one to cope with the extra number of Army Department houses.

Many of the Army married quarters have been built without proper regard being paid to the problems of proper access for refuse collection, and the Council's kerbside system of collection inflicted grave difficulties on many of the occupants, who had a very considerable carry to contend with. It was suggested to the Army Department that some of these houses should be converted to plastic sack systems of storage and collection, and after protracted negotiations, 48 married quarters were converted on an experimental basis. This experiment proved so successful that the 170 married quarters to be completed in 1969 are being equipped with sack systems from the outset.

During the year the Council started to supply all newly erected Council houses with plastic sack holders and sacks, and to replace worn out dustbins in Council houses with these systems. By the end of the year a total of 115 houses had been so equipped. No difficulties of any kind have been experienced with these sacks, and they have received the general approval of the householders who are using them.

The Council's service is operated by four vehicles, two of which are continuous loading 35 cu. ft. Pakamatics, and two fore and aft tippers. The older of the two fore and aft tippers will be replaced by a continuous loader in 1969, and during the year trials of different kinds of vehicle were held to decide the most suitable for our purposes. In the event a 50 cu. yd. Pakamatic vehicle was selected and ordered.

During the year every effort was made to keep the district clear of abandoned motor vehicles, and regular use was made of the Council's tractor and trailer for removing these eyesores. By the end of the year 19 abandoned motor vehicles and two motor scooters had been removed by the Council's staff. Six abandoned cars had been removed by scrap dealers on our behalf, and eight cars had been brought to the Everleigh Tip by the Army Department. It still proved possible to sell these vehicles to local scrap dealers, and in a substantial number of cases we found it possible to discover the identity of the owner and to recover the removal charge of £4.

Action under the Civic Amenities Act was taken in regard to a area of land at Ludgershall which had become littered with rubbish, and after severe pressure from the Department the owners cleared up the site.

The Council will be interested to know that a survey of our refuse collection service recently carried out indicates that we are now emptying a minimum of 8,525 dustbins or their equivalent every week.

Demand for waste paper was very low during the year, and we only managed to sell 90 tons. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts. Fortunately income from the sale of abandoned cars and metal scrap generally improved greatly, and this helped to redress the balance. The value of all salvage sold during 1968 was as follows:-

| | £. s. d |
|---|--------------------|
| Waste Paper | 652. 9. 0 |
| Rags | 105.17. 0 |
| Metals | 33. 2. 6 |
| Scrap vehicles and other metals from the Tip | 215. 8. 0 |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | <u>1,006.16. 6</u> |

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

During the year the long-awaited Collingbourne Ducis and Kingston Sewerage Scheme got under way, and the contractors made excellent progress. This scheme has been awaited by the inhabitants for many years, and when it is completed it will effect a considerable improvement, as drainage conditions in some parts of the Bourne Valley had become very difficult.

In spite of a rather large number of the houses in the area being already equipped with septic tanks, the Council were able to make their case for proceeding with this scheme at a time of considerable financial stringency, and completion is due in 1969.

In accordance with their policy of having one sewerage scheme in preparation while the work was going on with another, the Council instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare an outline scheme for the sewerage of the North Western Parishes of the district. When this scheme is carried out the greater part of the district will have been sewerage. The North Western Parishes are very greatly in need of a proper sewerage scheme because of the presence of the ubiquitous greensand, which prevents septic tanks from working at all adequately. This scheme will be very expensive as it will involve considerable lengths of pumping main and the delivery of all the untreated sewage to a very much enlarged works at Pewsey. Fears have been expressed that this may result in an increase in nuisance at Pewsey, and this problem has been carefully looked into. I am reasonably satisfied, however, that the provision of new machinery and new treatment plant should make it possible to operate the Pewsey works without it causing any greater nuisance than has been the case in the recent past.

NOISE NUISANCES

In October 1968 I reported to the Council that I was becoming seriously concerned about the number of noise nuisances that were being caused in the built-up parts of the rural district by contractor's plant. It had been noticeable during the Summer that contract work involving the use of road breakers had been going on from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. for days on end, and the noise levels for people living nearby must have been well nigh intolerable.

The Committee agreed with me that something should be done about this, and I was instructed to write to all statutory undertakers and contractors operating in the area, pointing out that the Council had statutory powers to deal with these matters, and asking for their co-operation. I am glad to say that but for one or two noticeable exceptions the contractors and statutory undertakers complied at once with our requirements, and road breakers began to appear with mufflers, which substantially reduce the noise.

In spite of these largely successful measures, I still feel that it would be wise for the Council to write a requirement into any contracts into which they enter involving roadbreaking and demolition, that mufflers of this kind should be used. It is interesting to note that not long after we started this action a circular on this point was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, an indication in itself of the general public concern at the increasing problem of noise.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

During the year 171 visits were made to the various kinds of food premises in the District. This compares with 142 such visits during 1967. The standard of food hygiene generally continued to be reasonably good, and no serious contraventions of the food hygiene regulations were found. 15 vehicles concerned in the food trade were inspected under the Food Hygiene (Markets Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, and the following contraventions were found, and after notification to the owners, remedied:-

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| 1. Name and address of owner not on vehicles... | ... | 2 |
| 2. Inadequate cleanliness ... | ... | Nil |
| 3. No First Aid box ... | ... | 2 |
| 4. No washing facilities on the vehicle.. | ... | 3 |

The list that follows shows the number and types of food premises in the district. It shows the number of premises to which Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 apply, and the number of premises fitted with wash basins and sinks to comply with those Regulations.

| <u>Type and No.</u> <u>of premises</u> | <u>No. Complying</u> <u>with Reg. 16</u> | <u>No. to which</u> <u>Reg. 19 applies</u> | <u>No. Complying</u> <u>with Reg. 19</u> |
|---|---|---|---|
| Butchers | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| Bakers | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Fishmongers | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Greengrocers | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Cafes | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Fishfriers | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Food Factories | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Grocers and General Stores | 55 | 39 | 39 |
| Licensed Houses and Clubs | 54 | 54 | 54 |

The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:-

- | | | |
|---|---|----|
| 1. For the storage and sale of prepacked ice cream | - | 63 |
| 2. For the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream | - | 1 |
| 3. For fish frying | - | 3 |
| 4. For sausage manufacture and preparation of meats | - | 9 |

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no Egg Pasteurisation plants in this district.

Unsound Food Condemned

The following food was condemned by your inspectors as unsound during 1968:-

| | Tons | Cwts. | Lbs. |
|---------------------------------|------|-------|------|
| Ice cream and Milk products ... | 2 | 5 | 48 |
| Canned Meat.. ... | | | 24 |
| Fresh Meat | | 1 | 22 |
| Meat Products ... | | | 29 |
| Fish' | | | 17 |
| Fruit and Vegetables ... | | 2 | 71 |
| Cereals ... | | | 97 |

Foreign Bodies in Food

A total of 7 such cases, a record for this district, occurred during the year, the most noticeable being two cases where pieces of wire were discovered in loaves of bread. In the first of these cases a piece of wire approximately one inch long was discovered when a child bit into the bread, and her mouth was cut by the wire. The Bakery Company concerned could offer no satisfactory explanation of this occurrence, and the Council decided to prosecute them under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Company concerned pleaded guilty and were fined £25 with costs of £17.17. 6d to the Council. The second case concerned a very much smaller piece of wire, also in a loaf of bread. The piece of wire concerned was approximately 14 mms. long, and our analyst reported that, on examination, it appeared to be monel metal, which is used in flour sieves. This fact was reported to the Bakery Company concerned, who had carried out their own independent enquiry, and had discovered that the screen in their bulk flour store had been damaged. The Bakery Company indicated that they had made arrangements for very much more frequent inspections of their screen to be made than had been the case hitherto, and the Council decided that, in this case they would not prosecute, but would content themselves with a severe warning to the Company concerned.

In the remaining cases the circumstances were such as to make it inadvisable for statutory action to be taken, although warning letters were sent to several of the food manufacturers concerned. The foods concerned are listed below:-

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Milk | 1 |
| Bread | 2 (referred to in detail above) |
| Meat Pies | 1 |
| Vegetables | 2 |
| Confectionery | 2 |

A case of mould in confectionery was also dealt with.

Poultry Inspection

| | | |
|--|---|----------------------------|
| 1. No. of poultry processing premises within the District | - | 1 |
| 2. No. of visits made to these premises | - | 13 |
| 3. Total number of birds processed during the year | - | 72,000 |
| 4. Types of birds processed | - | Broilers and Turkeys |
| 5. Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption | - | 2% |
| 6. Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption | - | 620 lbs. |

It should be noted that no evisceration of poultry takes place at the premises concerned; the birds are merely killed and plucked.

MILK SAMPLING

211 milk samples of all kinds were taken during the year compared with 213 during 1968. There are now only two retailers of unpasteurised milk operating in the district.

During the year there was a significant rise in the number of samples failing the Methylene Blue Test and it was found necessary to make very strong representations indeed to the dairymen concerned.

Sample Tests 1968

| | |
|---|-----|
| Samples subjected to Methylene Blue Test | 184 |
| Samples subjected to Ascheffenburg Test | 155 |
| Samples of untreated milk failing Methylene Blue Test .. | 12 |
| Samples of heat treated milk failing Methylene Blue Test... .. | 9 |
| Samples of heat treated milk failing Ascheffenburg Test... .. | NIL |
| Samples subjected to biological examination for presence of Tubercle Bacilli ... | 8 |
| Samples showing positive tuberculosis reaction | NIL |
| Samples subjected to Ring Test for presence of Brucella Abortus | 8 |
| Samples showing positive reaction to Ring Test | 1 |
| Samples of milk showing positive Brucella Abortus reaction on biological examination | NIL |
| Samples of Sterilised milk subjected to Turbidity Test.. | 16 |
| Samples of milk failing Turbidity Test | NIL |

PEST CONTROL

224 premises were treated for infestations by rats and mice during 1968. This is a welcome reduction over the number which were treated in the previous year but does not, in my opinion, indicate any reduction in the overall rodent population: indeed there are indications of an increase.

The poison principally in use was the blood anti-coagulant Warfarin, and I am very pleased to be able to report that there was no evidence of any resistance to it in the district.

The premises owned and operated by the Council were all regularly serviced during the year, particular attention being paid to the refuse tip due to the greatly increased use to which it is now being put. Regular treatment with massive quantities of bait proved a successful formula for keeping the rat population to a minimum.

During the course of all this work your Rodent Operator make 1,771 visits either for treatment or for survey, and a further 130 visits were made by the inspectors in connection with this work.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During 1968 there were 100 licensed caravans in the district, a reduction of six compared with 1967. 75 of these vans are distributed on three large sites, and although minor difficulties were experienced in keeping one of the sites up to standard, by and large conditions were reasonably good. I am confident that the demand for residential caravans will continue to decline as the housing stock of the district increases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

I am glad to be able to report that it was only necessary to make 10 visits in connection with the control of infectious diseases during 1968. This compares with 262 in the previous year and with 361 in 1966 and is the lowest total that I can recollect for a number of years.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

There are five premises in the district which are licensed to boil pig swill, but only three are in operation. All the premises were visited during the year, and were found to be satisfactory.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

147 visits were made in connection with the enforcement of the above-mentioned Act, and the table given below shows the number of defects found and remedied during the course of these inspections.

No Certificates of Exemption were applied for or granted during the year, nor was it necessary to take proceedings in respect of any contraventions, as in general the occupiers and owners of registered premises were very co-operative. No accidents were reported during the year.

Tables A and C, which are also given below, are extracted from the official report made by the Council to the Ministry of Labour; they show how the inspections were made up and give an analysis of the persons employed in the registered premises.

| | <u>Found</u> | <u>Remedied</u> | | <u>Found</u> | <u>Remedied</u> |
|---|--------------|-----------------|--|--------------|-----------------|
| Inadequate Cleanliness | 2 | 7 | Absence of Thermometer | 3 | 18 |
| Inadequate heating | - | 4 | Inadequate ventilation | 1 | 6 |
| Inadequate lighting | 3 | 11 | Inadequate Sanitary accommodation | 1 | 12 |
| Inadequate washing facilities | 3 | 12 | Inadequate seating | - | 2 |
| Defects in floors, passages and stairs | - | 4 | Inadequate guarding of dangerous machinery | 1 | 2 |
| No First Aid boxes | 2 | 16 | Abstract of Act not shown | 3 | 27 |
| Inadequate accommodation for outdoor clothing | - | 2 | | | |

TABLE A - REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

| Class of Premises (1) | Number of premises registered during the year (2) | Total number of registered premises at end of year (3) | Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4) |
|--|--|--|--|
| Offices | 2 | 23 | 27 |
| Retail shops | 6 | 75 | 69 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses | - | 2 | 2 |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | - | 10 | 9 |
| Fuel storage depots | - | 5 | 5 |
| <u>TOTALS</u> | 8 | 115 | 112 |

TABLE C - ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN
REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

| Class of Workplace (1) | Number of persons employed (2) |
|---|---|
| Offices | 54 |
| Retail shops | 277 |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses | 58 |
| Catering establishments open to public | 5 |
| Canteens | - |
| Fuel storage depots | 31 |
| <u>Total</u> | 425 |
| <u>Total Males</u> | 210 |
| <u>Total Females</u> | 215 |

PART I - FACTORIES ACT

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1968 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT
OF PEWSEY IN THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

- 1 - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Number of | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | Inspec- tions (3) | Written Notices (4) | Occupiers prosecu- ted (5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | - | - | - | - |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 50 | 30 | 1 | - |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworker's premises) | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 50 | 30 | 1 | - |

- 2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

| Particulars (1) | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6) |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | Found (2) | Remedied (3) | To H.M. Inspector (4) | By H.M. Inspector (5) | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 1 | 1 | - | - | - |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | - | - | - | - | - |

| Particulars (1) | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6) |
|---|---|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| | Found (2) | Remedied (3) | To H.M. Inspector (4) | By H.M. Inspector (5) | |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | - | - | - | - | - |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | 2 | 1 | - | - | - |

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

| Nature of Work (1) | Section 133 | | | Section 134 | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c) (2) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3) | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4) | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5) | Notices Served (6) | Prosecutions (7) |
| Wearing) Making Apparel) etc. | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | 2 | - | - | - | - | - |





